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The Honorable Kirk Caldwell  
Mayor, City and County of Honolulu  
530 South King Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mayor Caldwell,

I wanted to bring to your attention an unfortunate and unacceptable situation I had with Jesse Broder Van Dyke, your Communications Director, when he approached me during a media interview at roughly 1:30pm on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

While I was preparing to be interviewed by Manolo Morales of KHON2 News, Jesse confronted me in a hostile manner about my comments in a news story that aired on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> with Manolo. As you know, I spoke with him yesterday about my disappointment and the frustration that my constituents once again faced due to the 500,000 gallon sewage spill, an event which I believe could have been avoided with proper planning and preparation. I also indicated to Manolo (my transcript is available online): "I'm very disappointed in the Mayor and the administration for not taking actions proactively to address these concerns [related to the sewage spill and the pump stations]". I further indicated that the city could've been much better prepared in this particular event and that was confirmed based on today's 2pm news conference.

What is extremely disappointing and unbecoming of a member of the city's executive branch, Jesse proceeded to use profanity to describe my interview with Manolo using the word "bullshit".

I found his comments, demeanor, and the use of profanity against a sitting member of the Honolulu City Council obnoxious and disappointing. This unfortunate and unacceptable situation occurred in the presence of members of the media and we're extremely fortunate that no members of the public were close enough to witness his disappointing remarks.

As a member of the legislative branch of the City and County of Honolulu, I believe that we should all have the opportunity to represent our constituents and to voice our concerns freely and openly. Further, we shouldn't face reprisal or intimidation from anyone from the executive branch for simply doing our jobs. My constituents demand accountability from our elected officials and expect me, as their councilmember, to ask the tough questions.

While I have high regard for you and Jesse, I hope you'll consider reviewing decorum and professionalism with all members of your staff so that an altercation like this does not happen again. I'm sure you will advise Jesse to apologize to Manolo Morales and his camera man.

I look forward to closure on this matter so that we may continue serving the people of the City and County of Honolulu.

Sincerely,

Trevor Ozawa  
Councilmember, District IV

cc: All Councilmembers

**COUNCIL COM. 284**